The Council re-assembled at the Council Chamber, Fort St. George, at 11 a.m. on Thursday, the 16th November 1922, the hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir P. Rajagopala Achariyar Avargal, K.C.S.I., C.I.E., President, presiding.

I

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

[*Order made by the President of the Madras Legislative Council under Standing Order No.* 15—

(1) Printed copies of the questions and answers to be put and given at a meeting of the Council shall be placed on the Council table an hour before the President takes his seat.

(2) The questions shall be put and answered in the following manner:—

The Secretary shall call the name of each interpellator in alphabetical order, specify the serial numbers of his questions and make a sufficient pause to allow him or any other member a reasonable opportunity of rising in his place if he is desirous of asking a supplementary question. Supplementary questions must be put immediately after the principal questions to which they relate.]

Tamil language and literature for the M.A. degree.

495 Q.—Mr. R. Appaswami Nayudu: Will the hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether 'Tamil' language is treated on a footing of equality with Sanskrit and Arabic by the University of Madras;

(*b*) whether the University of Madras has made it impossible for a candidate to appear for 'Tamil language and literature' alone in order to qualify himself for the M.A. degree of the University of Madras;

(*c*) whether it is possible for a candidate to appear in Sanskrit literature alone, or Arabic alone for the M.A. degree examination of the University of Madras;

(*d*) whether in the history of the University of Madras it was at any time possible for a candidate to appear for 'Tamil language and literature' alone for the M.A. degree examination in order to qualify himself for the degree, and, if it was so, what the consideration was which led the university to abandon that syllabus in favour of the present one;

(*e*) whether the Government have been in receipt of memorials or petitions requesting that Tamil may be treated by the university on a footing of equality with languages such as Sanskrit and Arabic; and

(*f*) whether or not the Government propose to interfere on this matter and place Tamil on a footing of equality with other languages such as Sanskrit and Arabic?

A.—(*a*) *to* (*c*) The hon. Member is referred to the University Regulations printed in the calendars of the university, particularly those in chapter XXIII relating to the M.A. degree examination.

(*d*) *to* (*f*) The answer is in the negative.